(viii) Effective 2nd October 2005, Government launched the Jan Kerosene Pariyojana as a pilot project in 417 blocks covering 23 States and one Union Territory for a period of six months with a view to strengthening and streamlining the infrastructure for kerosene distribution and involving the Gram Sabhas and Gram Panchayats and State Panchayati Raj Institutions in the supervision of PDS kerosene distribution, so as to ensure that entitled beneficiaries actually receive their entitlement and diversion to adulteration and black-marketing is capped, reversed and eventually eliminated.

Measures to check adulteration are kept under continuous review of the Government.

As regards LPG, adulteration in LPG cylinders is physically quite difficult. However, IOC detected one case of an LPG cylinder containing water in Bareilly (U.P.) during 2004-05. The LPG cylinder was replaced free of cost to the customer. Action by way of imposition of fine was taken against the distributor under the Marketing discipline Guidelines (MDG).

(e) During the current year, out of 5337 inspections conducted by the OMCs in U.P., 98 cases of malpractices were detected. OMCs terminated 11 Retails Outlets (ROs), suspended sales and supplies in 51 cases and imposed fines in 2 cases.

New technique on exploration of crude oil

†*396. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that with the invention of a scientific technique by a Norwagian Science and Technology University, Trondheim, recovery of crude oil from oil rigs goes upto 60 percent; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard and whether it is a fact that an agreement has also been reached between ONGC and the said institute in this regard?

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) and (b) There is no single universally applicable technique for enhanced oil recovery which has been developed by the Norwegian Science and Technology University, Trondheim.

During the visit of a high-level delegation headed by the Indian Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Panchayati Raj, to Norway, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 1.9.2005 by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC) and the National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI) of India, on the one hand, and the Institute of Petroleum Technology of the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, on the other. This MoU provides for "Reservoir Modelling" to achieve enhanced oil recovery through the use of fractal theory and 4D seismic in ONGC's oil and gas fields in the country.

Marketing or Indigenously Produced Kerosene and LPG

*397. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have permitted ONGC to market indigenously produced kerosene to non-PDS consumers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Government have also authorized marketing of indigenously produced LPG in the country by the manufacturers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF PANCHAYATI RAJ (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) to (b) Effective August 2005, Government have permitted Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) to market their indigenously produced kerosene to non-PDS consumers after meeting in full the demand requirement of Public Sector oil marketing companies (OMGs), *viz.*, Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and IBP Company Limited (IBP) for the distribution of kerosene under the Public Distribution System (PDS). The permission is provisional and is subject to the condition that ONGC would comply with all provisions of the Kerosene (Restriction on Use and Fixation of Ceiling Price) Order, 1993.